

## Message Text

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14-11

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SR-02 ORM-01 SCA-01 VO-03 AID-05 FDRE-00

SAM-01 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /072 W

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O R 220950Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9645

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MANILA NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 2166

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF CB MY

SUBJ: CAMBODIAN NAVY SHIPS AND REFUGEES IN MALAYSIA

1. ON APRIL 20, THREE CAMBODIAN NAVY COASTAL PATROL VESSELS  
ARRIVED TUMPAT PORT, KELANTAN WITH 625 PASSENGERS ABOARD  
INCLUDING 93 OFFICERS, 253 ENLISTED MEN AND THE  
REMAINDER WOMEN AND CHILDREN. SHIPS FULLY ARMED;  
PERSONNEL ON BOARD SHIPS HAVE BEEN ALLOWED TO KEEP  
RIFLES AND SMALL ARMS FOR TIME BEING. GROUP ESCAPED  
FROM NAVAL BASE NEAR KOMPONG SOM SEVERAL DAYS AGO.  
SHIPS' COMMANDER, CDR KRISHNA, ARRIVED EMBASSY  
4:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME ESCORTED BY MALAYSIAN  
IMMIGRATION OFFICIAL TO REQUEST URGENT ASSISTANCE.  
KRISHNA TOLD EMBOFFS THAT MORE THAN TWENTY  
MILITARY PERSONNEL IN HIS UNIT  
KILLED BY COMMUNISTS. GROUP DOES NOT WISH TO RETURN  
TO CAMBODIA; CDR KRISHNA UNDERSTANDS THEY WILL NOT  
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BE ACCEPTED IN THAILAND.

2. MALAYSIAN AUTHORITIES IN KELANTAN HAVE ALLOWED SHIP TO REMAIN IN PORT FOR FEW DAYS PENDING ONWARD TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS. ONLY WOMEN AND CHILDREN PERMITTED TO GO ASHORE DURING DAYTIME; MEN MUST STAY ON BOARD SHIPS. MALAYSIANS HAVE SUPPLIED SHIP WITH SMALL QUANTITIES OF RICE, DRIED FISH, VEGETABLES AND WATER. ACCORDING TO CDR KRISHNA, SHIP'S STORES HAVE BEEN EXHAUSTED AND HE WILL NEED FULL PROVISIONS AND FUEL IF SHIPS ARE TO PROCEED ANY FURTHER. THUS FAR, IT APPEARS MALAYSIAN AUTHORITIES HAVE BEEN COOPERATIVE BUT EMBASSY ASSESSMENT IS THAT SHIPS WILL BE ALLOWED TO REMAIN FOR ONLY FEW DAYS LONGER AT MOST.

3. SINCE TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH OPERATIONS CENTER, WE HAVE LEARNED FROM FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIAL (YUSOF HITAM) THAT GOM IS AWARE OF PROBLEM AND WILL NOT PERMIT CREW AND PASSENGERS TO REMAIN IN MALAYSIA, BUT WILL PROVIDE FOOD AND FUEL FOR ONWARD MOVEMENT. CAPTAIN HAS TOLD US HE INTENDS TO PROCEED TO SATTAHIP, THAILAND. GOM, HOWEVER, MAY ONLY PROVIDE SUFFICIENT FUEL TO PROCEED TO NEAREST THAI PORT SINCE ALL THEY WOULD SUPPLY IS 17,000 GALS. WE ESTIMATE AN ADDITIONAL 85,000 GALLONS IS NECESSARY TO REACH SATTAHIP. IF DEPARTMENT WISHES THESE VESSELS, WHICH WE ASSUME ARE MAP SUPPLIED, RETURNED TO OUR CONTROL, REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO PAY FOR NECESSARY ADDITIONAL FUEL AND SUPPLIES. UNDERHILL

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